What is claimed is:

1. A printing apparatus for printing to at least a first and second print medium comprising:

a first transportation path for transporting a first print medium;

a second transportation path for transporting a second print medium with the second transportation path disposed substantially perpendicular to and intersecting the first transportation path; and

a common print head for said first and second print medium with said print head disposed in a printing area where the first transportation path and second transportation path intersect for printing to the first print medium when the first print medium is conveyed on the first transportation path and for printing to the second print medium when the second print medium is conveyed on the second transportation path.

2. A printing apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein the first transportation path is U-shaped in geometry.

3. A printing apparatus as described in claim 1, further comprising a magnetic ink character reader disposed on at least one side of the first transportation path for reading magnetic ink character data preprinted on the first print medium.

4. A printing apparatus as described in claim 1, further comprising a scanner disposed to the first transportation path for capturing an image of the first print medium.

5. A printing apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein the first print medium and second print medium are paper slip forms.

6. A printing apparatus as described in claim 5, whereby a slip form inserted from the discharge side of the second transportation path is printed by the print head and then ejected from the discharge side of the second transportation path.

7. A printing apparatus as described in claim 6, further comprising a discharge device for printing multiple lines to the slip form by means of the print head while conveying the slip form to the discharge side of the second transportation path.

8. A printing apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein the first print medium is a slip form and the second print medium is roll paper.

9. A printing apparatus as described in claim 1, further comprising a first discharge means for ejecting the first print medium in a first transportation direction along the first transportation path; and

a second discharge means for ejecting the first print medium in a second transportation direction perpendicular to the first transportation path.

10. A printing apparatus as described in claim 9, further comprising a magnetic ink character reader for reading magnetic ink character data printed on the first print medium, or a scanner for capturing an image of the first print medium;

wherein the first print medium is ejected from the first discharge means or second discharge means according to the read results from the magnetic ink character reader or scanner.

11. A printing apparatus as described in claim 9, wherein the second discharge means prints multiple lines to the first print medium by means of an intervening print head while transporting the first print medium in the second transportation direction.

12. A printing apparatus as described in claim 10, wherein transporting the first print medium pauses, and the first print medium is then printed by means of the intervening print head according to the read result of the magnetic ink character reader or scanner while being transported by the second discharge means.

13. A printing apparatus for processing a first medium in the form of a paper slip and a second print medium in the form of roll paper said apparatus comprising first transportation means for transporting said slip form along a first transportation path of U-shaped geometry;

means for transporting said roll paper along a second transportation path;

a print head for printing to the roll paper; and

a roll paper compartment for storing the roll paper;

wherein the roll paper compartment and second transportation path are disposed inside the U-shaped first transportation path.

14. A printing apparatus as described in claim 13, further comprising a magnetic ink character reader disposed on at least one side of the first transportation path for reading magnetic ink character data preprinted on the first print medium.

15. A printing apparatus as described in claim 13, further comprising a scanner disposed to the first transportation path for capturing an image of the slip form.

16. A printing apparatus as described in claim 13, wherein the print head is disposed to a printing area where the first transportation path and second transportation path intersect, and prints to slip forms or roll paper.

17. A printing apparatus comprising a transportation mechanism for transporting a slip form along a first transportation path;

a print head for printing the slip form in a printing area disposed along the first transportation path; and

a carriage for carrying the print head mounted thereon parallel to the transportation direction of the slip form in the first transportation path.

18. A printing apparatus as described in claim 17, wherein the first transportation path is U-shaped.

19. A printing apparatus as described in claim 17, wherein the carriage moves between the printing area and a retracted position separated a specified distance from the printing area.

20. A printing apparatus as described in claim 17, wherein the print head moves parallel to the slip form transportation direction and prints to the slip form while the slip form is held stationary.

21. A printing apparatus as described in claim 20, further comprising a magnetic ink character reader for reading magnetic ink character data printed on the slip form, or a scanner for capturing an image of the slip form,

wherein the slip form is printed according to read results from the magnetic ink character reader or scanner.

22. A printing apparatus as described in claim 17, further comprising a second transportation path substantially perpendicular to the first transportation path for transporting slip forms or roll paper;

wherein the print head prints to a slip form or roll paper transported on the second transportation path.

23. A method for printing to a print medium in the form of a slip comprising steps of:

transporting said slip form along a U-shaped first transportation path;

reading magnetic ink characters preprinted on the slip conveyed over the first transportation path; and

printing to the slip form according to the magnetic ink character data read from the slip.

24. A printing method as described in claim 23, further comprising the step of transporting and ejecting the slip form along a second transportation path substantially perpendicular to the first transportation path.

25. A printing method as described in claim 23, further comprising the step of capturing an image of the slip transported over the first transportation path; and

transporting and ejecting the slip form along a second transportation path substantially perpendicular to the first transportation path in response to the captured image scanned from the slip.